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Class 3: Piecing Together the Story: Analyzing Records and Drawing Conclusions

The image shows a page from the 1930 U.S. Census for Dorchester, Suffolk County. The table contains columns for name, sex, age, race, marital status, occupation, and birthplace. A red box highlights a specific row, likely representing the subject of the lesson.

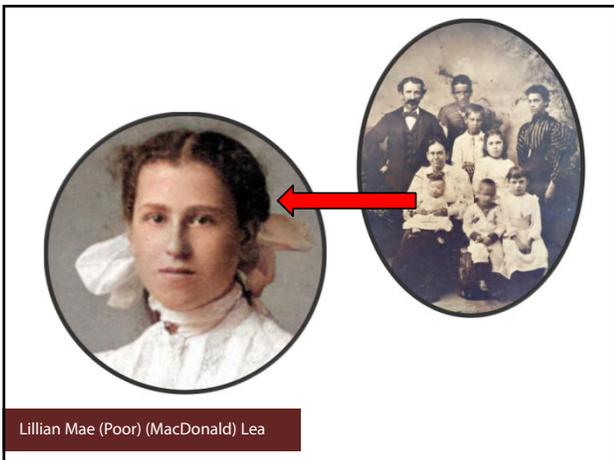
1930 U.S. Census - Dorchester, Suffolk County

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Census Overview 1900-1930

- 1900: Boston (Dorchester), **Suffolk County**, Mass.
- 1910: Milton, **Norfolk County**, Mass.
- 1920: Somerville, **Middlesex County**, Mass.
- 1921: Dorchester, Mass. - *Alexander L. Poor dies*
- 1930: Milton, **Norfolk County**, Mass.
- 1933: Dorchester, Mass. *Clista A. (Gale) Poor dies*

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Lillian Mae (Poor) (MacDonald) Lea

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Lillian Mae Poor

- **1900-1910:** On the census with her parents
- **1916:** Married to Daniel Archibald MacDonald
- **1917:** Daughter - Annabell MacDonald (stillborn)
- **1918:** Daughter - Jessie Lillian MacDonald
- **1919:** Daughter – Doris Frances MacDonald
- *Where did she live after this?*

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1920 U.S. Census – Dorchester, Mass.

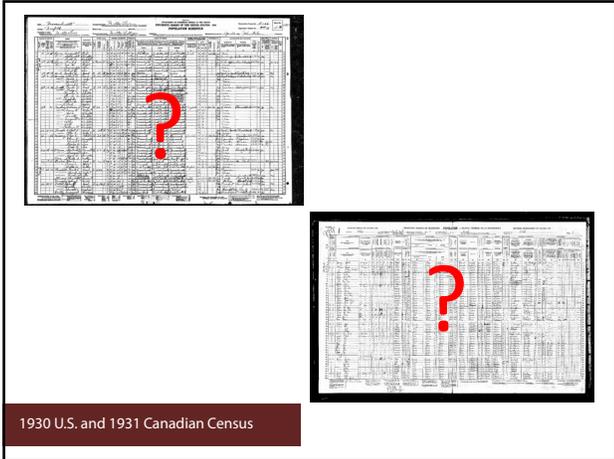
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1921-1930

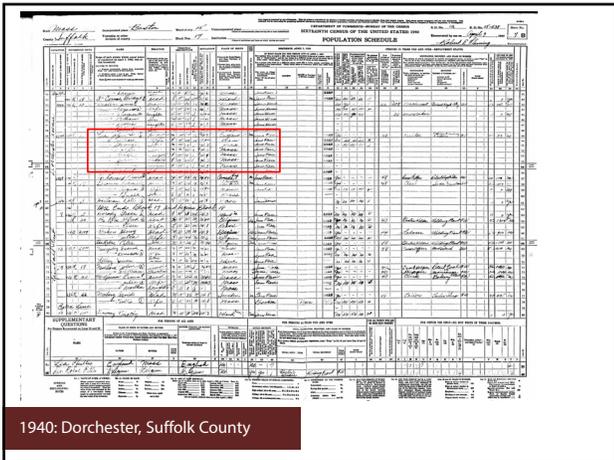
- **1921:** Dorchester, Mass. Her husband Daniel A. MacDonald dies.
- **1925:** Dorchester, Mass. She remarries to John Samuel Lea.
- **1925:** Wakefield, Mass. Son – John S. Lea born
- **1925-1927:** Move to Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- **1927-1930:** Children Ralph, Alice and Joan born in Toronto.

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Class 3: Piecing Together the Story: Analyzing Records and Drawing Conclusions



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Census Overview 1920-1940

- 1920 U.S. Census: Dorchester, Suffolk County, Mass.
- 1930 U.S. Census: **Living in Toronto, Ontario**
- 1931 Canadian Census: **Living in Needham, Mass.**
- 1940 U.S. Census: Dorchester, Suffolk County, Mass.
- 1950 U.S. Census: Dorchester, Suffolk County, Mass.
- 1960, 1970, 1980 U.S. Census: Stoughton, Norfolk County, Mass.

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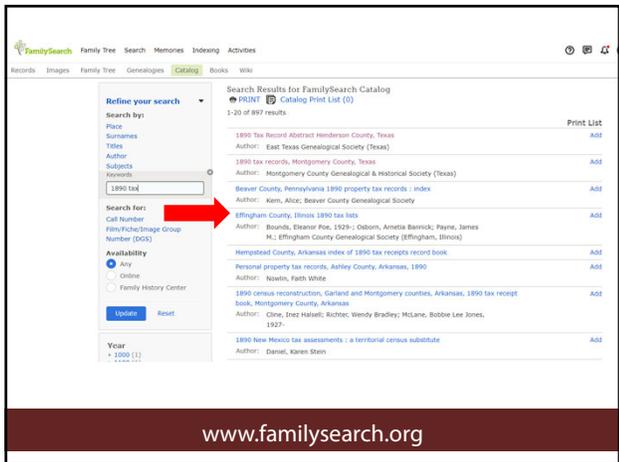


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Census Substitute

- Tax records should be treated as a census substitute (ex. 1890 Census)
- They place someone in a specific location and year (sometimes down to the month)
- Annually recorded in most cases. Good to use between the decennial census records.

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Build a Timeline

- You can follow the taxpayer over multiple years to build a timeline of their life.
- Free white males 16 or older were required to pay taxes in colonial America
- Free white single or widowed women also paid taxes (*femme sole* status)
- The absence of someone from a tax record usually indicates someone moved or died

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Who Were Proprietors?

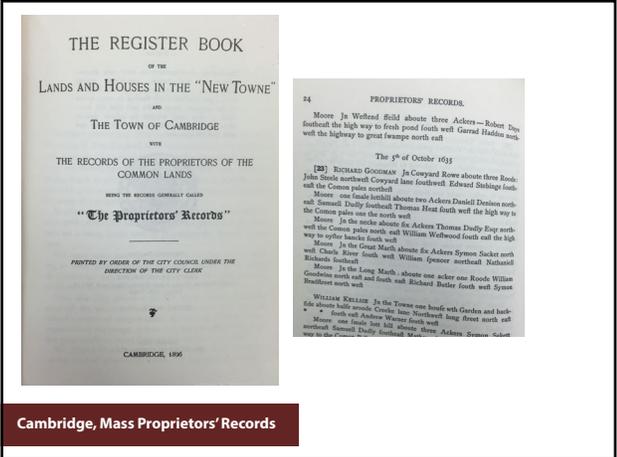
- The colony courts assigned grants of land to groups of settlers.
- These settlers formed Proprietorship Committees to distribute land to settle towns.
- These records in many cases pre-date the county deeds recorded for a community.

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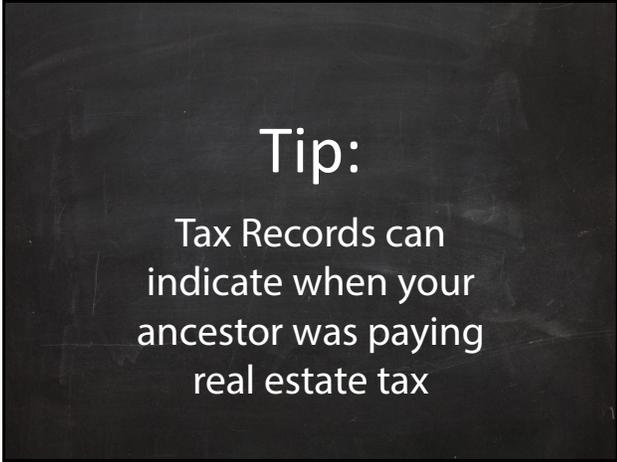
Where to find proprietor records?

- Town Halls, Town Clerk, Tax Office or assessor
- County Registry of Deeds
- Libraries and local historical societies
- Family History Library microfilm
- Published transcriptions of Proprietor records

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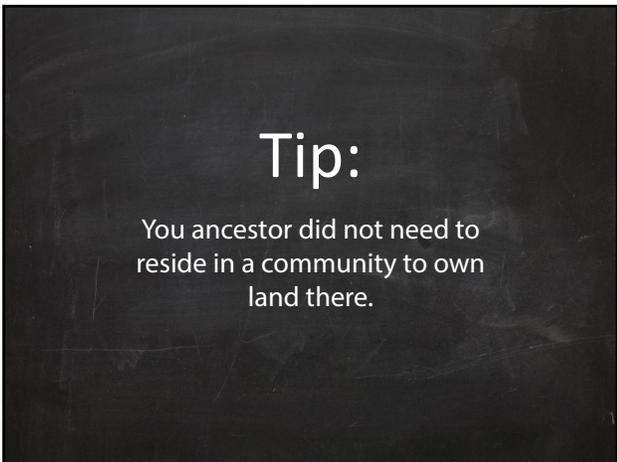


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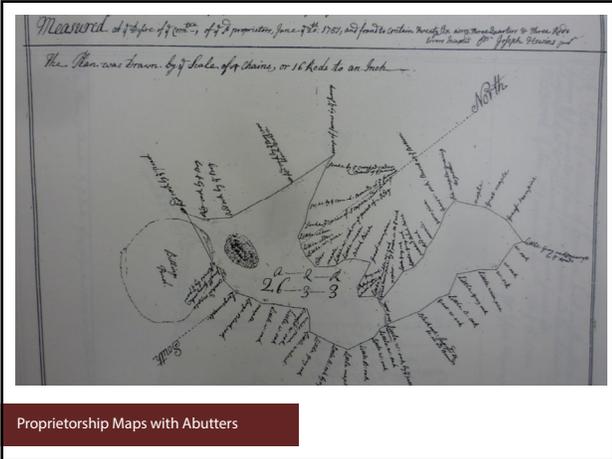
Names.	Province						Total
	Roll	Real	Prop	Wells	Town	Chm	
	of 2	of 2	of 2	of 2	of 2	of 2	of 2
N. Ebenezer Newcomb	X	. . .	36	. . .	36	. 27	. . 5 76
P. Capt. William Pierce	X	. . .	27	. . .	29	. 20	. . 4 51
R. David Anglin	X	. . .	17	. . .	17	. 17	. 2 183
S. James Swift	+	12	. 2	. 5	. 15	. 15	. 5 122
W. John Well	X	4	. 6	. . .	4	. 6	. 1 3 227
Joseph Woodward	X	12	. 3	. . .	12	. 3	. 1 5 163
Joseph Whiston	X	12	. 3	. . .	12	. 3	. 1 5 163
Brought over							
Total	5	39	10	12	5	9	23 5 21 156
Note: The Oct. of Kerechial Merets speaks has paid in part							
Total you are to pay							
Remains to Collect							
To be paid you out of Town Treasury							
Total you are to pay							

Tax Records of Proprietors

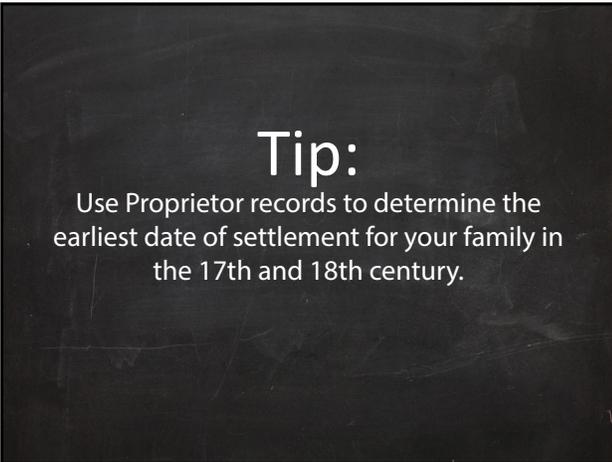
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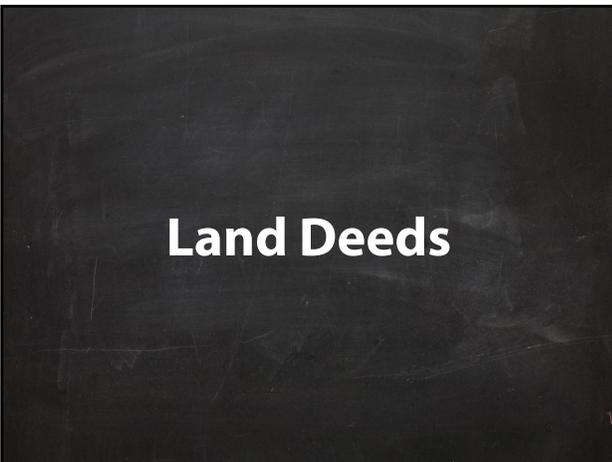
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Class 3: Piecing Together the Story: Analyzing Records and Drawing Conclusions

Grantor/Seller

Grantee/Buyer

Abutting neighbors

Land Measurements

Location of Land

Essex County, Massachusetts Land Deed, Edward Sargent of Newbury to Thomas Arnold of Newbury

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Land Measurements

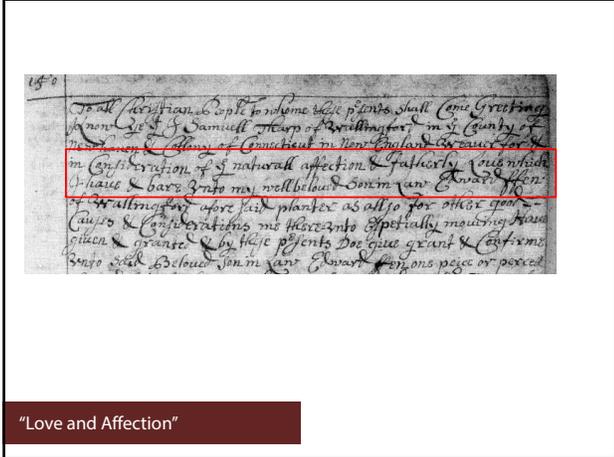
- **1 mile:** 80 chains, 320 poles, rods or perches = 5,280 ft.
- **1 chain:** 4 poles, rods perches is 66 ft., or 100 links.
- **1 pole, rod or perch:** 25 links, 16 1/2 ft.
- **1 link:** 7.92 inches

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Tips for Analyzing Land Deeds

- Note where the buyer and seller's residence is at the time of the sale. This is a key clue for identifying migration.
- Look for deeds where a husband is selling property. If his wife is living, first name will be referenced in the deed and/or the court inquiry to release her dower.
- Note the deed witnesses and abutting neighbors. They may be relatives of either party.
- Look for phrases like "in consideration of natural affection" to identify family members.
- Quit claim and power of attorney deeds are useful for documenting the children of a deceased parent.

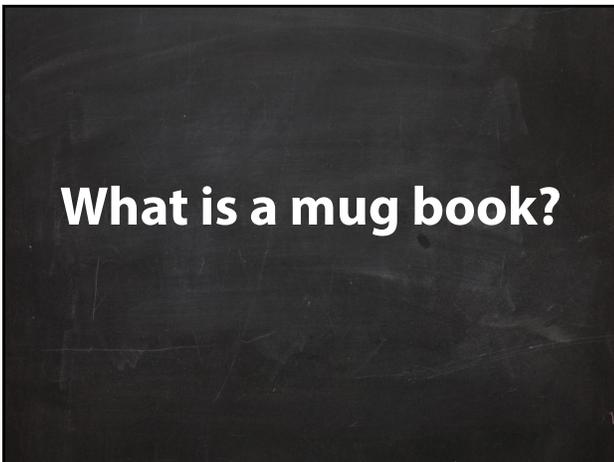
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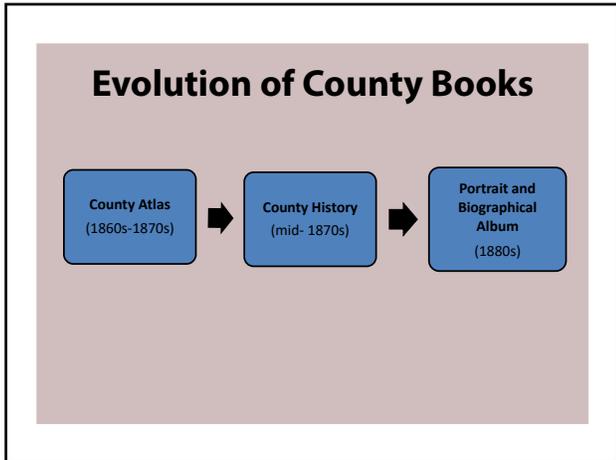
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Mug Books

- **Mug-** The face or mouth of a person *informal; M-W*
- **Mug Books-** county history books which included biographical sketches of residents. They were sold by subscription in advance of printing at the end of the 19th century and beginning of the 20th centuries *A to Zax (p. 180)*



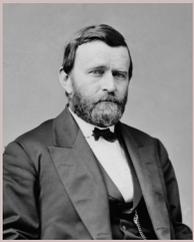
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Centennial Proclamation

May 1876- President Grant endorsed a congressional resolution recommending that every county and town produce- “an historical sketch of said county or town from its formation”



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Patriotic and Democratic



- Self-made success- not just of the man, but also the county/town
- Immigrants were included as pioneers
- Rural, small town accomplishment
- Part of the larger, national narrative

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Portrait and Biographical Record of Lee County, Illinois

“Instead of going to musty records, and taking therefrom dry statistical matter that can be appreciated by but few, our corps of writers have gone to the people, the men and women who have, by their enterprise and industry, brought the county to rank second to none among those comprising this great and noble State, and from their lips have the story of their life struggles...a record of many whose lives are worthy the imitation of coming generations. It tells how some, commencing life in poverty, by industry and economy have accumulated wealth.”

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Flowery Language and Stylized Printing

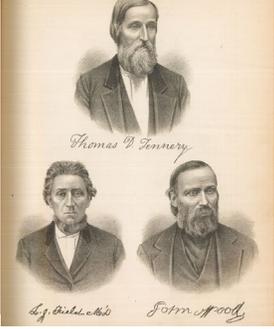
“Our subject experienced all the hardships and trials of pioneer life in a newly settled country...in 1863 he rented a farm in Nelson Township, and by careful economy was able, in a few years, to purchase the farm that he had rented, but did not have the cash enough to pay the whole price at once. He now has nearly the whole of it under a high state of cultivation, has cleared off the encumbrance, freeing himself entirely from debt and has made many fine improvements, including a large barn built in 1883. His farm is one of the most attractive places in this vicinity, everything about it being kept up to a high standard, showing the presence of a master mind and hand.”



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Who was included?

- White Males (some females-spinsters/widowers)
- Farmers, Small Businessmen, Professionals (such as Lawyers and Doctors), teachers, and religious officials.
- Living persons (some in memoriam)



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Information Included

- Place and Date of Birth
- Names of Parents, Siblings, and Children (sometimes grandchildren)
- Ancestry
- Political Affiliation
- Occupation and Place of Residence
- Migration History
- Military Service
- Marriage Information
- Fraternal Organizations

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Are My Ancestors Included?

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Popularity

1. **'Representative Citizens'**- 500-1000 subscriptions were essential to the profitability of the book
2. **Prosperity**- Midwest \$\$, Southern States during Reconstruction had limited funds (depending on the book, \$25 sketch and \$125 portrait and sketch)
3. **Small, Rural Towns**- Northeast and Mid-Atlantic are not as well represented because of their demography

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Class 3: Piecing Together the Story: Analyzing Records and Drawing Conclusions

James Monroe
President of the United States of America.

WHEREAS, That in pursuance of the Act of Congress appropriating and granting Land to the late Army of the United States, passed on and since the 4th day of May, 1814, &c.

having deposited in the General Land-office a Warrant in Form, numbered 1897, there is granted unto *James Taylor* land, containing *100 Acres* of *Public Land* in *Illinois* in *Whitley* Township, *Madison* County, *Illinois* of *Traverse* *Section 36* of *Range 5 West* and *of Township 10 North* in the Township of *Whitley* in the County of *Madison* in the State of *Illinois* and to the heirs of *James Taylor* his heirs and assigns forever.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have caused these Letters to be signed, and the Seal of the General Land-office to be hereunto affixed. Given under my Hand, at the City of Washington, this *10th* day of *October* 1862.

By the President, *C. Schenck*
Department of the General Land-office.

Bounty Land Warrant - Illinois

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FIFTEENTH REGIMENT NEW HAMPSHIRE VOLUNTEER INFANTRY.
(NINE MONTHS.)

Mustered into the service of the United States October 4 to November 22, 1862, at Concord, by Charles Holmes, Capt. 17 Inf., U. S. A. Organization completed November 12, 1862. Mustered out August 23, 1863, at Concord, by Charles Holmes, Capt. 17 Inf., U. S. A. Each man was a volunteer appointed or enlisted for nine months unless otherwise stated.

Abbott, Daniel C. Co. B; b. Auburn; age 22; res. Auburn, cred. Auburn; enl. Sept. 15, '62; must. in Oct. 9, '62, as Priv.; disch. June 14, '63. Fort Hudson, La.; must. out Aug. 18, '63. P. O. ad. Massachusetts.

Abbott, Michael. Co. E; b. Ireland; age 18; res. Manchester, cred. Manchester; enl. Sept. 6, '62; must. in Oct. 10, '62, as Priv.; must. out Aug. 13, '63. Disch. Aug. 1, '60, Wilton.

Adams, Benjamin F. Co. B; b. in Concord; age 20; res. Concord, cred. Concord; enl. Sept. 9, '62; must. in Oct. 8, '62, as Priv.; killed May 27, '63, in action, Fort Hudson, La.

Adams, Charles W. Co. D; b. Hollis; age 18; res. Hollis, cred. Hollis; enl. Sept. 27, '62; must. in Oct. 9, '62, as Priv.; disch. to date Aug. 15, '63, ten ex. P. O. ad. Hollis.

Adams, Charles W. Co. G; b. Barnstead; age 23; res. Barnstead, cred. Barnstead; enl. Sept. 16, '62; must. in Oct. 15, '62, as Priv.; disch. to date Aug. 15, '63. P. O. ad. Barnstead.

Adams, Frank L. Co. I; b. Eden, Va.; age 27; res. Dorsfield, cred. Dorsfield; enl. Sept. 16, '62; must. in Oct. 8, '62, as Priv.; must. out Aug. 13, '63. Disch. Feb. 10, '64, Eden, Va.

Adams, William. Co. F; b. Canada; age 21; res. Canada, cred. Canada; enl. Sept. 8, '62; must. in Oct. 10, '62, as Priv.; must. out Aug. 13, '63.

Adams, William H. Co. A; b. Gilmanston; age 27; res. Gilmanston, cred. Gilmanston; enl. Sept. 15, '62; must. in Oct. 6, '62, as Priv.; must. out Gilmanston, Dec. 1, '62. P. O. ad. New York.

Addison, Jonathan W. Co. I; b. Canada East; age 26; res. Newick, cred. Newick; enl. Sept. 17, '62; must. in Oct. 14, '62, as Priv.; must. out Aug. 13, '63.

Soldiers & Sailors of N.H. (1895)

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Parmer, Almon L. (Second Lieut. 21st Inf.). Born in New York. Appointed from New York. Civil War. U. S. A. Born in Dublin, Ireland, Aug. 12, 1835. Enlisted. Appointed from N. Y. - Civil War. 1st Lieut. 21st Inf. N. Y. Civ. War. Aug. 25, '61; Capt. Dec. 10, '61; Major May 26, '62. Lieut. Col. Jan. 25, '64. Hon. must. out Dec. 10, '64. 21st Cav. Feb. 25, '65. Promoted April 11, '65; 1st Lieut. Oct. 10, '65; Capt. April 20, '67; resigned Feb. 11, '67. Served with the 21st Cav. for gallant and meritorious services in action at Upperville, Va., June 23, '61; Major March 2, '67, for gallant and meritorious services during the war. Lieut. Col. Sept. 25, '67, for conspicuous gallantry in charging a large body of Indians, strongly fortified, in the Federal Caverns, Pitt River, Cal., Sept. 26, '67. Served with Cav. Corps of the Postmaster, proceeded to Washington; during the winter '61-'62 camped at Hunter's Chapel, Va., Breckner's Division; marched with it in March, '61, to the Shenandoah Valley; thence to West Va., and joined Fremont's command; thence back to the valley in pursuit of Jackson as far as Fort Republic; thence back to Lenoxy Valley under Sigel, participating in Manassas, etc.; wounded at Spottsville, Va., and became part of the Cavalry Corps on its organization by Gen. Sherman, until final muster-out of regiment on expiration of the term of service in the winter of '64, on duty at Cavalry Office, for a few months in the fall of '64, 1st Div. Cav. Corps; assigned to Co. I, 1st Cav., stationed at Camp McDermitt, Nev.; reported for duty at Charlie Lake, Pa., April 23, '66; commanding recruit to Nevada, Tenn., for 6th Cav. from July 2 to 10, '66; on duty with the ancient (600 men) of the Cav. Corps, then being organized, to Fort Riley, Kan., Aug. 20 to Sept. 6, '66; ordered to join regiment on the Pacific Coast Sept. 18, '66; left Charlie Lake Sept. 13; took passage on steamer "Hautage de Cuba" Sept. 29; suffered shipwreck off Hatteras Oct. 3, and returned to New York; retained again to steamer "San Francisco," arrived at San Francisco, Cal., Nov. 7, '66; and assigned to duty with the 8th Cav., then being organized, at Angel Island, Cal., until Jan. 26, '67, at Albatraz Island until Feb. 15, and at Benning Barracks until June 4, '67; proceeded to John Kropf, 1st Cav., at Camp C. F. Smith, Oregon, marching overland to Sacramento and Florence, Cal., Virginia City, Fort Cherokee and Camp McDermitt, Nev.; marched to Camp Warner Oct. 5, '67; on scout through Albert and Goose Lake Country Dec. 7 to 17, '67; on scout through the Sierra Nevada Mountains from Feb. 17 to Feb. 1, '68, protecting Indians for service as scouts in the Sierra Nevada Mountains, during which trip met and suffering from cholera in the Sierra Nevada Mountains from deep snows and extreme cold; on scout in Sierra Nevada from Feb. 11 to 23, '68; on scout through the Sierra Nevada Mountains from May 2 to 6, '68; from June 20 to July 5, accompanied Gen. Crook to Camp Harney, Oregon, to hold council with Indians and returned and were finally located in the Malheur Reservation; on scout with Gen. Crook's command through Goose Lake and Pitt River country from July 25 to Aug. 20, '68; changed

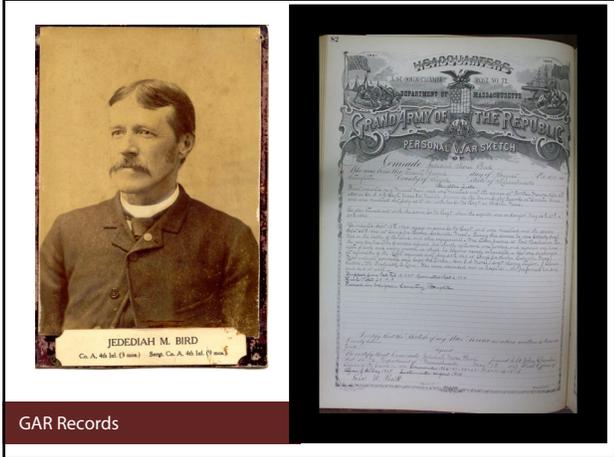
William R. Parnell

- 1835 Born in Dublin, Ireland
- 1861: Enlisted Civil War from New York
- 1867: Pitt River, California
- 1868: Boise, Idaho
- 1868: Camp Harney, Oregon
- 1877: White Bird Canyon, Idaho
- 1890: New York
- 1910: Died San Francisco, California

Living Officers of the U.S. Army (1890)

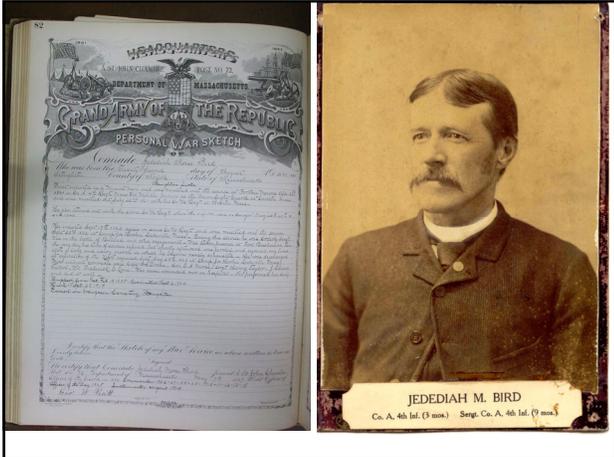
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Class 3: Piecing Together the Story: Analyzing Records and Drawing Conclusions



GAR Records

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Obituaries from multiple newspapers

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Dr. Henry S. Pelton.

Carleton, Mich., June 27.—Dr. Henry S. Pelton, of Waltz, for many years a resident of that place and well known person of Wayne county, died at his home yesterday afternoon from blood poisoning, aged 82 years. Last winter he suffered a frozen foot and never fully recovered from the effect. He leaves a widow and twelve children. The funeral will be held from the Waltz church tomorrow and he will be buried at Romulus.

Detroit Free Press, June 28, 1904

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Compiled Genealogies

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Employment Records

Major League Baseball

85



- Born in Louisville, KY (1866)
- Philadelphia Athletics (1887–1889) - PA
- Brooklyn Ward's Wonders (1890) - NY
- Philadelphia Athletics (1891) - PA
- Philadelphia Phillies (1892–1895) - PA
- Pittsburgh Pirates (1895) - PA
- Louisville Colonels (1895–1896) - KY
- Washington Senators (1898–1899) – D.C.
- St. Louis Cardinals (1900) - MO
- Brooklyn Superbas (1900) - NY
- Cleveland Blues (1901) - OH
- Cincinnati Reds (1901) - OH
- Died in Louisville, KY (1955)

Augustus "Gus" Weyhing

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QUESTIONS?

Schedule a consultation
consultations@americanancestors.org

Hire Research Services
research@americanancestors.org

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